

## Davey Glen Park

This week, the construction contract for the long awaited Davey Glen Park was approved by the Belmont City Council. The successful bidder on the project is Star Construction, Inc. out of San Bruno. Belmont residents may be familiar with this company as they were the builders of Semeria Park that was completed in 2011 in the Cipriani neighborhood. Staff is confident that Star can build the park to the City's specifications.



Tree work at the site is 99% completed with a couple of cleanup items remaining. No more trees are being removed or trimmed, there are, however, a few stumps to grind. The work areas are clear and the site is ready for construction of the park. Staff is working with the Parks and Recreation Commission to expand the tree plantings in and around the park and will bring a plan forward in the coming months. The additional trees would be oak, buckeyes, and other native trees that enhance the site but do not result in safety or fire hazards. As can be seen in the photos, many eucalyptus remain on the site that will fill in the gaps over time.

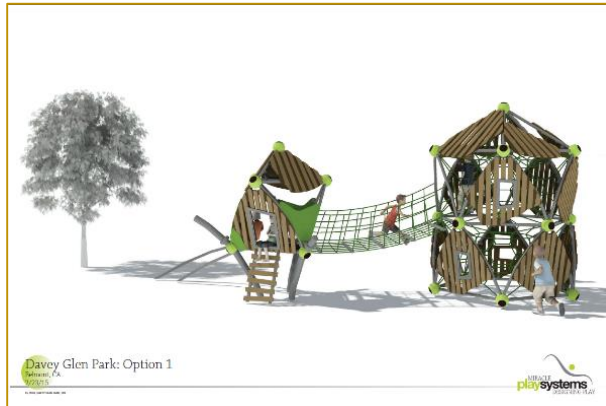


Recently, questions have been raised about what was done to protect birds during the tree trimming and removal. Belmont staff worked with trained staff from the Davey Tree Company to

ensure that no bird nests were disturbed as part of the tree removal and pruning. Their crews receive training to identify and avoid working on trees which contain bird nests and during this project no bird nests were disturbed. We look forward to welcoming wildlife to the site with trees and shrubs that are drought tolerant, non-invasive and promote diversity among wildlife, including butterflies, birds and insects crucial to our local eco-system.

City Council asked about adding a drinking water fountain and lights to the park. Because there is no connection to the sanitary sewer nearby, a drinking fountain would be a challenge at the park. Staff is exploring ways to provide this amenity within the constraints of the site. As for lighting, staff will monitor if night use becomes an issue at the new park and take the necessary steps to change the lighting based on the community feedback.





The playground equipment for the project has been ordered and is scheduled to arrive in August for installation in the new park. The design is inspired by the tree houses of youth and is made of solid materials including baked bamboo and stainless steel. The inside of the structures include a rope system that allows for climbing and play. This is the first of its kind in Belmont and will be enjoyed by neighborhood kids of all ages.